aavin,gs bank accounts to the legal successor of a deceased customer;

(b) whether Government have framed any orders/regulations in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details there of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI); (J) to (c) Ordinarily payment of balances standing to the credit of a deceased depositor requires the claimant to produce legally accepted evidence of tit'e. However, to avoid the delays involved in obtaining such evidence in respect of small depositors, banks have evolved procedures whereunder the balances standing to the credit of the deceased depositors are paid to successors after obtaining' cortain documents such as claim application. death cc-tificate, indemnity bond/ snre'i'-s, consent letters from other legal heirs affidavit indicating particulars of legal heirs, etc.

Now depositors have the facility of nominating the person/s to whom balances to the credit of their accounts should be paid after their demise.

Evasion of Excise Duty by Beedi manufactures

1354. SHRl BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a large scale evasion of excise duty by beedi manufacturers in collusion with the local excise officials in Allahabad region, especially in Gursahai Ganj, Farrukhabad; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken Or propose to take ir the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No case of evasion of excise duty by beedi manufacturers in collusion with the excise officials in Gursahai Ganj and Farrukhabad and in. Allahabad region., has come to the notice of the Governmnent.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply ^o i.a) above. However, as a precautionary measure, the preventive and intelligence set-up in 'he above regions have been further strengthened.

Interest pdd to th$_e$ claimed of decision depositors

1355. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARl Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the claimants of de ceased depositors in the nationalised banks are entitled to get ihe full imouDt wih up to date interest on the deposits at the time of tins! settlement; and

(b) if not, what are the cases in which interesi on such deposits *ls* not payable to the claimants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN Ti MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI); (a) Ba are required to pay interest on the balances to the credit of deceased depositors in accordance with the directives of the Reserve Bank. Such deposits with prescribed interest upto the date of withdrawal are payable by the banks to the legal heirs of the deceased depositors.

(b) Does not arise.

News item captioned "Customs Detain Hepatitis Kits''

1358. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Wiil fhe Minister of FINANCE plensed to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn io the new$_s$ item which appeared in "The Afternoon Despatch & Courier"' of July 10, 1986 published from Bombay captioned "Customs Detain Hepatitis kits"; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) K.E.M. Hospita], Bombay presented a Bill of Entry on 27-6-86 at the Air Cargo Complex, Sahar Airport, for clearing an import consignment of Hepatitis Test Kits. The importers were required to produce a Test Licence under Rule 33 ol the Drugs & cosmetics Rules by the Drugs Control Authorities on 28-6-86. The Drugs Control Authorities ordered ihe release of the consignment on 8-7-86 after the importers had given an undertaking belore them to Produce the Test Licence in due course. The BiH of Entry was thereafter presented to the Customs ior clearing the j?ood$_s$ on 9-7-86 and the consignment cleared hy th- Customs on the sam$_e$ day.

Staff involved ia Bank Fraud*

1357. SHRl K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Wil! the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of officers and staff of the nationalised banks and other public financial institutions found to be indulging in corrupt practices including fraud during the last one year; and

(b) what are the details of tbe action taken against them so lar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINTSTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) According to Reserve Bank of India, the total number of bank employees involved in cases of frauds and corrupt practices and the action taken against them to the extent reported by public sector banks, for the year* 1985 and 1986 (upto 31-3-86) is as given below: —

FRAUDS

	1985	1986 (up-to 31-3-86)
(i) No. of employees convicted on charges o ffrauds	30	5
(ii) No. of employees given major/minor penalties	686	105
(iii) No. of employees out of (ii) above dismissed/dicharged/removed	236	66
(iv) No. of employees against whom prosecution is pending in Court	335	345
(v) No. of employees against whom departmental proceedings are pending	717	653
CORRUPT PRACTICES		
(i) No. of employees convicted on charges of corrupt practice	4	2
(ii. No. of employees given major/minor penalties	387	90
(iii) No. of employees out of (ii) above dismissed/discharged/removed	108	28
(iv) No. of employees against whom prosecution is pending in Court	95	96
(v) No. of employees against whom departmental proceedings are pending (Data provisional)	529	436

In so far M other public financial Institutions ars concerned, the information is not readily available.